(b) The North Eastern region has seasonal surplus during monsoon months mainly during off-peak hours. During the remaining period North-Eastern region has been drawing power from Eastern region.

(c) and (d) North-Eastern region is connected with Eastern region through 220 KV Bongaigaon-Birpara line and major part of North-Eastern region is operating in parallel with Eastern region. The Eastern region is quite surplus in power and has been exporting power to the neighbouring Southern, Eastern and Western regions. The existing transmission system between Eastern region and other regions is being utilised to export Eastern region surplus and there is no possibility of exporting surplus of North-Eastern region to other regions in the near future.

Losses Suffered by NTPC

3144. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC has incurred losses of Rs. 220 crores during the last one year due to malfunctioning boiler tubes in its power plants as reported in the Hindustan Times dated 29th June, 1998;

(b) if so, whether accountability for losses suffered by NTPC have been fixed;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of total losses suffered by each of the power plant run by NTPC during the last three years, year-wise and plant-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to check losses?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) No, Sir. The news report in the Hindustan Times dated 29th June, 1998 was reported out of context.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) Boiler tube failure in power plants in an accepted phenomenon the world over. The percentage loss of availability due to tube failure in NTPC stations is comparable to international utilities of USA and UK, and has come down to 1.89% in 1997-98 from 2.064% in 1996-97, which is considered as one of the best performances in the country. The tube failure rate expressed in terms of number of tube failures per thousand running hours of NTPC stations for the last three years is as under:—

Year	Tube failure rate per thousand running hours
1995-96	0.351
1996-97	0.338
1997-98	0.294

(e) Continuous monitoring of boiler tube failure is undertaken in NTPC stations so as to explore the strategies to reduce the failure to the minimum possible level. The International Conference on Tube Failure organised by NTPC recently was intended to provide a platform for sharing national and international experiences with the object of exploring strategies to reduce tube failure.

टिहरी बांध पर हुआ व्यय

3145. **श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी:** क्या विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि टिहरी बांध पर अब तक हुए व्यय का बड़ा भाग अनुत्पादक कार्यों पर व्यय हुआ है;

(ख) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान भवन, निर्माण, जिलों नया टिहरी नगर एवं अधिलेट की कालोनी भी शामिल है, पर कितनी राशि व्यय हुई है;

(ग) मुख्य बांध टनल एवं पावर हाऊस पर कितनी राशि व्यय हुई है; और

(घ) अन्य वार्षिक स्थापना व्यय क्या हैं?

विद्युत मंत्री (श्री रंगराजन कुमारमंगलम): (क) जी, नहीं। टिहरी जल विद्युत परियोजना पर किया गया व्यय अनुमोदित लागत अनुमानों के अनुसार अध्ययनों और परीक्षणों, अनिवार्य अवसंरचनात्मक कार्य,

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